

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment, which amends Claims 1, 3 and 4, and cancels Claims 2 and 5, Claims 1, 3 and 4 remain pending in the present application. In the July 13, 2004 Office Action, the drawings were objected to for various informalities. The specification was objected to for mistakenly labeling Fig. 3 as Fig. 2. Claims 1 and 3-5 were objected to for various informalities. Claims 2 and 5 were rejected under U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for allegedly being indefinite. Finally, Claims 1, 3 and 4 were indicated as being allowable if amended to overcome the objections relating to informalities. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the above amendments and the comments below.

Objections to the Drawings

On pages 2-3 of the Office Action, the drawings were objected to for various informalities. Specifically, in Fig. 3, objection was made to including reference label not used in the description of the invention. Fig. 3 was also objected to for not showing: the “subtracting” step recited in Claims 1, 3 and 4; the first three “computing steps” in Claim 2; and the “exploiting” step in Claim 5.

In response, Fig. 3 has been amended to address the objections. The objections relating to Claims 2 and 5 are moot since Claims 2 and 5 have been canceled.

Objections to the Specification

In the Office Action, the last paragraph on page 3 of the specification was objected to for mistakenly referring to Fig. 3 as Fig. 2. In response, Applicant has amended the specification so that it is "Fig. 3" that is referred to.

Objections to the Claims

On page 4 of the Office Action, Claims 1 and 3-5 were objected to for not defining the terms "n, N, x and k" in the claims. Second, recitation of the "assuming" step in Claims 1, 3 and 4 was objected to. Third, Claim 3 was objected to for use of the terms "massaging" and "flipup" [sic]. Fourth, use of the phrase "can be" was objected to – the examiner suggesting using "is" instead. Finally, Claim 5 was objected to for use of the term "steps" rather than "step".

In response to the first objection, Applicant notes that there is no requirement to define terms of a claim within the claim itself. Nevertheless, Applicant has amended Claims 1, 3 and 4 so that the terms are defined therein.

Regarding the second objection, Applicant respectfully disagree that the "assuming" step in Claims 1, 3 and 4 is indefinite for allegedly not being connected with subsequent steps. The "assuming" step is, in fact, connected with the subsequent step of "subtracting". (For support for this assertion, see Fig. 3 and lines 18-20 on page 6 of the specification.)

In response to the third objection, Applicant has amended Claim 3 so that it no longer uses the term “massaging”. In its stead, the term “mathematically manipulating” is used. Regarding use of the mathematical term “flipud”, Applicant disagrees with the examiner’s objection. A “flipud” (not “flipup”) is a mathematical matrix operation standing for flip matrices up-down. This mathematical operation readily understood by those of ordinary skill in the art. Support for the operation can be found on page 8 of the specification. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully believes that the objection is improper.

The fourth and fifth objections were directed at Claim 5, which has been cancelled in this Amendment. Accordingly, the rejections are now moot.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all of the claim rejections have been properly addressed, and therefore requests that they now be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph, Claim Rejections – Claims 2 and 5

On page 4 of the Office Action, Claims 2 and 5 were rejected to under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for allegedly being indefinite. Claims 2 and 5 have been canceled in this Amendment. Accordingly, these rejections are now moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

On page 5 of the Office Action, Claims 1, 3 and 4 were indicated as being allowable if amended to overcome the informality objections set forth earlier in the

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Office Action. Applicant believes that all of the objections have been properly addressed. Accordingly, Claims 1, 3 and 4 should now be in a condition for allowance.

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CONCLUSION

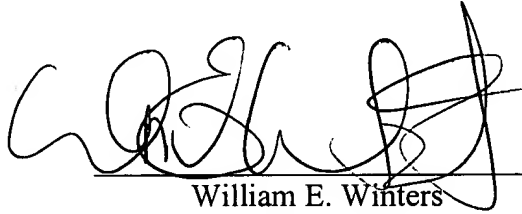
In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 408-282-1857.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1698.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: OCT 13, 2004


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ANNOTATED SHEET

Fig. 3

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